

CLAIMS

1. Glass strand, characterized in that its composition comprises the following constituents in the limits defined below, expressed as percentages by weight:

	SiO ₂	58 to 63
	Al ₂ O ₃	10 to 16
	CaO	16 to less than 23
10	MgO	0.5 to less than 3.5
	Na ₂ O + K ₂ O + Li ₂ O	0 to 2
	TiO ₂	greater than 1 but less than 1.5
	B ₂ O ₃	0 to 1.5
	Li ₂ O	0 to 0.4
15	ZnO	0 to 0.4
	MnO	0 to 1
	F	0 to 0.5.

2. Glass strand according to Claim 1, characterized in that the SiO₂ content is strictly greater than 60%.
- 20 3. Glass strand according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the TiO₂ content is greater than or equal to 1.1% and less than or equal to 1.4%.
4. Glass strand according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the MgO content is between 2.2 and 2.8%.
5. Glass strand according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the boric anhydride (B₂O₃) content does not exceed 0.5%.
- 25 6. Glass strand according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that its composition furthermore contains between 10 and 100 ppm of cobalt oxide (CoO).
7. Composite, consisting of glass strands and organic and/or inorganic material(s), characterized in that it comprises glass strands as defined in one of Claims 1 to 6.
- 30 8. Fitting for an exhaust system, characterized in that it comprises fibres as defined in one of Claims 1 to 6.

9. Glass composition suitable for producing glass reinforcement strands, which comprises the following constituents in the limits defined below, expressed as percentages by weight:

5	SiO ₂	58 to 63
	Al ₂ O ₃	10 to 16
	CaO	16 to less than 23
	MgO	0.5 to less than 3.5
	Na ₂ O + K ₂ O + Li ₂ O	0 to 2
10	TiO ₂	greater than 1 but less than 1.5
	B ₂ O ₃	0 to 1.5
	Li ₂ O	0 to 0.4
	ZnO	0 to 0.4
	MnO	0 to 1
	F	0 to 0.5.

15 10. Process for manufacturing glass strands, comprising the steps of attenuation into the form of one or more webs of continuous filaments from a multiplicity of molten glass streams emanating from a multiplicity of orifices placed at the base of one or more bushings, and of assembling the said filaments into one or more strands that are collected on a moving support, the
20 molten glass feeding the bushings having a composition according to Claim 9.